

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0030] of the specification as follows:

[0030] Referring to FIGS. 3 and 4, FIG. 3 provides a cross section of the nose of aircraft 10 through sensor housings 12. This view shows sensors 14 behind transparent apertures 20. In this example, sensors 14 are cameras, which capture video images. However, Forward-Looking Infrared (FLIR) sensor(s), low level light cameras and other like visual acoustic sensors known to those skilled in the art may be used. FIG. 3 also illustrates cleaning mechanism 24. As depicted, cleaning mechanisms 24 wipe the transparent outer surface of conical surfaces 26 of apertures 20 26 with brushes. However, any debris removal system known to those skilled in the art may be employed. As shown, cleaning mechanisms 24 are located above sensors 14. As such, their placement does not interfere with the field of view of these sensors. Conical surfaces 26 rotate about axis 28 respectively. As shown in FIG. 4, this rotation is driven by drive shaft 30 coupled to motor 32 by gear box 34. As conical surfaces 26 rotate, a brush or wiper 36 removes debris from the transparent surface. This brush or wiper may oscillate in response to the motion of crank 38 and connecting rod 40. A fluid injection system 42 may further enhance the ability of the cleaning mechanism to remove debris by applying cleaning solutions to the transparent conical surface 26 43 as it rotates. An environmental seal 44 serves to isolate sensors 14 within the protective housing from the external environment.

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